

Farmers' Department.

How to Farm It.

At the meeting of the Massachusetts Board of Agriculture at Greenfield, December 13th, Gov. Andrew presided and presented Dr. Loring with his introductory lecture. The doctor's subject was "How to farm it," and was descriptive, but replete with good sense and wholesome suggestion to the entire craft. He said that farming was considerable of a business, there being 36,000 farms in the State, and several millions of dollars invested in cattle, tools, etc. Farming is a multifarious business, and requires care, thought, skill, energy and foresight. There is intellectual work enough on some farms to last a man a life. Farms differ, like ships or cows. They vary in kinds, quality and location. So everybody cannot manage a farm, and so agriculture often lies torpid in neglect. Corn won't thrive on clay, nor grass on sand. Bees cannot be raised to advantage within the sound of Boston bells, nor market gardening be profitably conducted on the Berkshire hills. Then the buildings of a farm should be central, sunny and cheerful. The best cultivation should begin at home, and the good work radiate abroad. The farmer should never work wet land without draining, nor man stone when tiles can reasonably be had. A moderate supply of roots will be found useful to every feeder of stock, and especially of sheep. Fruits are uncertain and should not occupy too much of the best land. Use ashes, bones and lime around your trees if you want fruit, and stable manure if the object is wood and leaves. Keep an accurate farm account and daily record. System is needed in farming. The theories and speculations of the schools have their use, but he who records an experiment publicly does more—he gives real wealth to the world. The man that knows how to raise a crop and can tell me how, can do great good. Farms should be entered for premium for the public good. Something new can be learned from every good cultivator. A farm, whether devoted to one crop or to mixed husbandry, is a study worthy of any farmer.

A New Usurper Comes.—Prof. Goosseling of Cincinnati, a German chemist there, claims the merit of discovering a process by which sugar, as nice as the nicest, can be made from Indian corn. He has succeeded in obtaining some three and a half gallons of beautiful white syrup from a bushel of corn, and what is of greater importance, has discovered how to convert that syrup into granulated sugar. The syrup is so white that it can be used in tea without darkening it at all, and the process is said to be so simple that it can be carried on in any farmhouse with the utensils that are found in every well-ordered kitchen. The importance of this discovery, if its promises are realized, cannot be overestimated. Our north-western states are the real granaries of the world, and there is hardly a limit to their capabilities in the production of corn. How to make the crop the most profitable to the farmers there and the most useful to the world has been the grand question, and the difficulty and cost of transportation to the East have tended to discourage efforts for its culture. But if every bushel of the golden grain is to yield three and a half gallons of syrup that can either be used upon the table or converted into pure granulated sugar, the problem will be solved both for the West and for the world, and the loss of the sugar plantations of the South will be more than made good. A New York company have purchased from Prof. Goosseling the right to use his discovery for \$100,000, and will immediately erect a factory and proceed to the practical test of the professor's claims. For the present the company will only manufacture the syrup, but will go into the sugar crystallization as soon as the needed arrangements can be made and not many months will elapse before it will find its way into the market.

What Makes a Bushel.—The following table of the number of pounds of various articles to a bushel may be of interest to our readers :

Wheat, sixty pounds.
Corn, shelled, fifty-six pounds.
Corn, on the cob, seventy pounds.
Rye, fifty-six pounds.
Oats, thirty-six pounds.
Barley, forty-six pounds.
Buckwheat, fifty-six pounds.
Irish potatoes, sixty pounds.
Sweet potatoes, fifty pounds.
Onions, fifty-seven pounds.
Beans, sixty pounds.
Bran, twenty pounds.
Clover seed, sixty pounds.
Timothy seed, forty-five pounds.
Hemp seed, forty-five pounds.
Blue-grass seed, fourty pounds.
Dried peaches, thirty-three pounds.

The world has a million of roosts for a man, but only one nest.

It may serve as a comfort to us in all our calamities and afflictions that he that loses anything and gets wisdom by it, is a gainer by the loss.

Who are the saints of humanity? Those whom perpetual habits of goodness and grandeur have made nearly unconscious that what they do is good; and whose with infinite simplicity.

It is mentioned, on the authority of a Leipzig medical journal, that a case of transfusion of animal blood into a human subject has been successfully performed, twelve ounces from the veins of a lamb having been injected with benefit to a patient.

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